

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Crop loss due to flood

†2569. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:
SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that heavy damage has been caused to agricultural crops by recent flood in some States of the country particularly Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh;
- (b) whether any survey by the Centre has been conducted to access the damage caused by the flood;
- (c) if so, the details of the damage caused by the flood, State-wise;
- (d) whether Government has extended any help to the States keeping in view the damage caused to agriculture; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) Heavy rains/floods during the year 2006 has affected crops in the States of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh. The area of crops affected in these States are as under:

Maharashtra	12.59 lakh ha.
Gujarat	7.47 lakh ha.
Rajasthan	17.36 lakh ha.
Chhattisgarh	0.15 lakh ha.

Damage to crops has not been reported from Madhya Pradesh.

(d) and (e) The assistance for relief and rehabilitation in the wake of natural calamities including floods is given to the States under the two schemes viz. Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) schemes. The State Governments are required to meet expenditure on relief and rehabilitation out for the corpus of the CRF. CRF is a readily available fund with the State Government. In case

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the calamity is of a sever nature and the funds available in the State's CRF account are not sufficient, additional assistance is provided to the States out of the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF). The details of the releases from CRF and NCCF during the current financial year 2006-07 to the States of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh are as under:

State	Amount released (Rs. in crore)	
	CRF	NCCF
Maharashtra	220.00	589.90
Gujarat	246.87	545.69
Rajasthan	413.66	100.00
Chhattisgarh	150.33	0.00
Madhya Pradesh	246.67	30.85

Shortage of fishes in the oceans

2570. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware that an acute shortage of fishes is on the increase in the oceans, these days;
- (b) if so, whether it is a fact that as a result of fish catching, there shall be no fish in the oceans at the end of 2050 AD; and
- (c) if so, the steps being taken/proposed to be taken by Government particularly in the Bay of Bengal, Arabian Sea and Indian Ocean not to allow catching of fishes to avoid scarcity of food etc. in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) Government are aware of the trends in marine fish production. The marine fish production in India is not on the decline. Against a fishable potential of 3.921 million tonnes in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), the present harvest is only around 3 million tonnes. Being a renewable resource, total extinction of fish by 2050 AD is not predicted by any one.